

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 ARAE-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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ACDA-10 L-03 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-07 OES-05 FEAE-00 H-02

PM-03 SS-15 INT-05 /114 W

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P R 101530Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9683

INFO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

US MISSION IAEA VIENNA 0083

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 BRASILIA 4617

USIA FOR IOP/M, IPS, IBS, RIM, ILA

CARACAS PASS TO GOECKERMANN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, PARM, BR, GW

SUBJECT: PRESS ARTICLES ON NUCLEAR-ENERGY ISSUES

1. SUMMARY - HERewith ARE TRANSLATIONS OF TWO KEY PRESS COMMENTARIES OF JUNE 8 ON BRAZILIAN VIEWS OF THE BRAZIL/FRG NUCLEAR ACCORD. IN AN EDITORIAL, THE INFLUENTIAL O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO EMPHASIZED BRAZIL'S NEED FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT REASONS BUT CAUTIONED THAT BRAZIL COULD NOT FORESWEAR THE BOMB IF OTHER COUNTRIES ACQUIRED IT. IN A COMMENTARY IN JORNAL DO BRASIL, LUIZ BARBOSA COMMENTED: THAT ITAMARATY (THE FONMIN) DOES NOT WANT TO ENCOURAGE CONTROVERSY OVER US REACTIONS TO THE UNCLASSIFIED

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ACCORD, THAT GOB WILL CLARIFY THE ACCORD AFTER IT IS SIGNED,

THAT SENATOR PASTORE'S COMMENTS REFLECT US POLICY TOWARD LATIN AMERICA, THAT THE US HAS AN "INEXHAUSTIBLE ARSENAL" OF DIPLOMATIC INSTRUMENTS OF PERSUASION, THAT DIPLOMATS ARE SURPRISED THAT GERMANY IS STANDING UP TO THE US, THAT BRAZILIAN DIPLOMATS THINK IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT US PRESSURE ON GERMANY COULD FORCE A POSTPONEMENT OF THE SIGNING OF THE ACCORD, THAT IF THIS COMES ABOUT ADDITIONAL SAFEGUARDS COULD BE WRITTEN INTO THE ACCORD, AND THAT FONMIN SILVEIRA SEES THE PUBLIC CONTROVERSY GENERATED AS HELPING TO RESTORE BRAZIL'S PRESTIGE. END SUMMARY.

2. HERewith ARE TRANSLATIONS OF TEXTS OF KEY WEEKEND NEWS-PAPER ARTICLES ON THE ISSUE OF BRAZIL'S NUCLEAR ENERGY AGREEMENT WITH FRG:

3. EXCERPTS FROM JUNE 8 LEAD EDITORIAL IN INFLUENTIAL O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO: " IN THE BRAZILIAN CASE, THE PROBLEM OF THE BOMB COMES IN SECOND OR THIRD PLACE. THE CONSTRUCTION OF ATOMIC REACTORS IS, ABOVE ALL, INDISPENSABLE TO OUR PROJECT OF ENERGY GENERATION, SINCE IN THE NEXT DECADE THE POSSIBILITIES OF EXPLORING THE HYDRO-ELECTRICAL POTENTIAL OF THE SOUTH CENTRAL REGION (OF BRAZIL) WILL HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED IN TERMS OF ECONOMICAL PRODUCTION. ONLY ATOMIC PLANTS THEN WILL BE ABLE TO WARD OFF THE ENERGY CRISIS THAT, GIVEN THE OIL CRISIS, WILL LEAD THE COUNTRY (BRAZIL) TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DISASTER. THE BUILDING OF THE (NUCLEAR) PLANTS (AND OF THE REACTORS INDISPENSABLE TO THEIR OPERATION) IS, THEN, AN INDISPENSABLE CONDITION FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF OUR DEVELOPMENT RHYTHM, FOR OUR VERY SURVIVAL AS A NATION, AND MORE THAN THIS, TO PROVE BRAZIL AS AN EMERGING POWER.

"OF THIS IS SO, THERE IS NO REASON TO HESITATE IN VIEW OF THE WEST GERMAN OFFER -- ESPECIALLY IF THE AGREEMENT, AS IT IS HERALDED, PERMITS THE DEVELOPMENT OF BRAZILIAN TECHNOLOGY IN THE NUCLEAR SECTOR AND IF THE HUGE INVESTMENTS THE PROJECT REQUIRES ARE TO BE ADVANTAGEOUSLY FINANCED BY THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. ALSO, EVEN IF IT IS REPUGNANT TO THE MORAL CONSCIENCE OF EACH ONE OF US, ONE CANNOT EVADE THE REALITY THAT, IF THE DISSEMINATION OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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TECHNOLOGY THAT LEADS TO THE BOMB HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH ASPIRE TO BECOME EMERGING POWERS TO HAVE AN INSTRUMENT OF INTIMIDATION AT THEIR DISPOSAL, WE OUGHT TO HAVE OURS. THIS IS NOT CYNICAL "REALPOLITIK" REASONING; IT IS ONLY ELEMENTARY REASONING FOR SURVIVAL IN THE JUNGLE THAT INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS HAS BECOME; IF OTHER MAY HAVE IT, IT IS NOT MORALLY JUST THAT WE RENOUNCE OWNING THE BOMB, IN THE SAME WAY THAT

IT IS NOT MORALLY JUST TO REMAIN PASSIVE IN THE PRESENCE
OF SOMEONE WHO, WIELDING A WEAPON, THREATENS US.

" BUT ONE THING IS CLAIMED BY THE POLITICAL CONSCIENCE
OF THE NATION (BRAZIL): LET THE AGREEMENT (WITH GERMANY)
BE WIDELY KNOWN AND ITS TERMS GENERALLY EXPLAINED TO THE
PUBLIC, SO THAT IT (THE NATION) MAY BECOME FULLY COGNIZANT
OF SOMETHING OF SUPREME IMPORTANCE AND MAY DISCUSS THE
SUBJECT, THUS GUIDING THE GOVERNMENT (OF BRAZIL) IN ITS
DECISIONS. AND, HERE IS ANOTHER THING OBSERVED BY
RESPONSIBLE (PUBLIC) OPINION: THE SO-CALLED NATIONALISTS
OF ALL SHADES APPLAUD THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION WITHOUT
NOTICING THAT THE SENDING OF URANIUM TO BE ENRICHED IN
GERMANY IS GREATLY SIMILAR TO THE "RISK CONTRACTS" THAT
THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND ENERGY UPHELD AS A SOLUTION TO
THE PROBLEM OF BRAZILIAN OIL. HERE WE HAVE TO WEIGHTS
AND TWO MEASURES THAT ONLY WITNESS TO THE SAD REALITY OF
THE WORLD, THAT IS, OF THE BRAZIL IN WHICH WE LIVE.
THE IMPORTANT THING, HOWEVER, IS THAT THIS MENTALITY NOT
PREVAIL DURING THE SIGNING OF THE DEFINITIVE TEXT OF THE
ATOMIC AGREEMENT WITH GERMANY AND THAT THE REAL INTERESTS
OF THE NATION BE, IN FACT, DEFENDED, WITH THE PUBLIC FULLY
INFORMED."

4. JORNAL DO BRASIL JUNE 8 ANALYSIS BY INTERNATIONAL-AF-
FAIRS WRITER LUIZ BARBOSA TEXT, WAS HEADLINED "ITAMARATY
WANTS TO AVOID POLEMICS ON THE AICORD". TRANSLATED TEXT
FOLLOWS:

BRASILIA -- CERTAIN THAT REACTIONS ALREADY EVIDENT IN
THE UNITED STATES MAY DECISIVELY HANDICAP THE OUTCOME OF
NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED WITH (WEST) GERMANY, THE
(BRAZILIAN FOREIGN OFFICE) ITAMARATY HAS DECIDED NOT TO
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ENCOURAGE CONTROVERSY ON THE SUBJECT, LEAVING TO CHANCEL-
LOR AZEREDO DA SILVEIRA THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CLARIFYING
THE BRAZILIAN POSITION ON THE ISSUE, UNTIL THE DOCUMENTS
ARE SIGNED IN BONN, LATER THIS MONTH (JUNE).

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ACDA-10 L-03 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-07 OES-05 FEAE-00 H-02

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9684

INFO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

US MISSION IAEA VIENNA 0084

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

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AT THE ITAMARATY, THERE ARE NO DOUBTS THAT THE GERMAN PLAN OF TECHNICAL AND MATERIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM MAY MOTIVATE THE MOST SERIOUS AND COMPLEX DIPLOMATIC ISSUE BRAZIL HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN DURING RECENT YEARS SURPASSING EVEN THAT OF THE 200-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA AND OF THE DEFENSE OF ITAIPU (BRAZILIAN-PARAGUAYAN HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT) AGAINST THE ATTACKS OF ARGENTINA.

SYMPTOMS

NOT ONLY THE SPEECH BY SENATOR PASTORE IN THE (U.S.) CONGRESS, BUT ALSO SUNDRY MANIFESTATIONS IN DIFFERENT SECTORS OF U.S. PUBLIC OPINION, INCLUDING AN ARTICLE BY COLUMNIST JAMES RESTON IN THE NEW YORK TIMES, POINT OUT TO BRAZILIAN DIPLOMATS THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS DISPOSED TO INTERVENE IN THE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN GERMANY AND BRAZIL. BEYOND THE IMMEDIATE COMMERCIAL INTEREST INVOLVE IN THE AGREEMENT (AROUND EIGHT BILLION DOLLARS OVER A 15-YEAR UNCLASSIFIED

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PERIOD), THERE ARE ALSO THE POLITICAL ASPECTS THAT THE UNITED STATE DOES NOT SEEM WILLING TO ACCEPT.

DECLARED POLICY

ACCORDING TO A SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE (BRAZILIAN)

FOREIGN OFFICE, PASTORE'S MENTION OF THE INCONVENIENCE OF CREATING A NUCLEAR FORCE "IN THE BACKYARD OF THE UNITED STATE" SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED ONLY AS A PEJORATIVE REMARK:

"IT (THE REMARK) CONTAINS THE ESSENCE OF U.S. POLICY IN RELATIONS TO AREAS SOUTH OF THE RIO GRAND -- THE U.S. - MEXICO BORDER."

ARSENAL OF PRESSURE

WITH THE REALISM WIDELY HERALDED BY CANCELLOR SILVEIRA, ITAMARATY KNOWS THAT THE UNITED STATE CONTROLS AN INEXHAUSTIBLE ARSENAL OF INSTRUMENTS OF PRESSURES TO SABOTAGE THE FINALIZING OF ANY INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT OR PROGRAM THAT IS NOT TO ITS LIKING. IT (THE U.S.) COULD ACT ESPECIAL- LY IN THE ECONOMIC SECTOR, WITH APPARENTLY SIMPLE MEASURES, BUT WHICH ARE CAPABLE OF PROFOUNDLY AFFECTING BRAZILIAN INTERESTS.

AMONG DIPLOMATS CONSULTED ON THE PROBLEM OF NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS, AN ATTITUDE OF SURPRISE WAS NOTICED IN RELATION TO THE FIRM POSITION MAINTAINED BY THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT ON COMMITMENTS ALREADY MADE WITH BRAZIL. TO DATE, THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT HAS NEVER DEMONSTRATED ANY FEAR OF U. S. REPRISALS FOR WHAT COULD BE CONSIDERED A "DARING" ATTEMPT TO OPERATE IN THE U.S. BACKYARD.

HAVING BEEN DEFINED IN THE PAST AS "AN ECONOMIC GIANT, BUT A POLITICAL DWARF", THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY HAS ITS SOVEREIGNTY AFFECTED BY THE TERMS OF PEACE AGREEMENTS SIGNED AFTER THE WAR, WHICH WERE MADE EVEN MORE RESTRICTIVE BY THE CONVENTIONS SIGNED IN 1955, IN PARIS, BY THE THREE WESTERN ALLIES: THE UNITED STATES, GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE.

CONCILIATION

ALL SUCH FACTORS LEAD BRAZILIAN DIPLOMATS TO CONSIDER THAT IT WOULD NOT BE AN ABSURD HYPOTHESIS THAT -- IF IN THE COMING WEEK THE UNITED STATE HARDENS ITS POSITON AGAINST THE IDEA THAT GERMANY SHOULD BE THE EXCLUSIVE SPONSOR AND UNCLASSIFIED

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DEVELOPER OF BRAZIL'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM -- THE SIGNING OF THE BONN AGREEMENTS MAY SUFFER A POSTPONEMENT OR THAT THEIR TEXTS MAY BE RETOUCHE TO SATISFY THE DEMANDS OF THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT. IN SUCH A CASE, EVEN IF NOT EXPRESSLY NOTED IN THE OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS, PART OF THE CONTRACTS BETWEEN NUCLEBRAS (THE BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR CONCERN) AND ITS GERMAN SUPPLIERS WOULD BE SUBCONTRACTED TO U. S. FIRMS. AND, AS TO THE POLITICAL ASPECT, ADDITIONAL "SAFEGUARDS" COULD BE WRITTEN INTO THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS IN ORDER TO QUELL U.S. APPREHENSIONS BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT BRAZIL IS NOT A SIGNATORY TO THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY OF GENEVA.

THE GOOD CAUSE

PERSONALLY, CHANCELLOR AZEREDO DA SILVEIRA THINKS THAT THE ISSUE GENERATED BY BY THE NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS WITH GERMANY AMOUNTS TO A RATHER FAVORABLE POLITICAL FACT. AFTER AN ABLE AND CORRECT PERFORMANCE AT THE RIVER PLATE BASIN FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING, IN COCHABAMBA (BOLIVIA), WHERE HE MANAGED TO NEUTRALIZE ARGENTINE MANEUVERS ON THE QUESTION OF INTERNATIONAL RIVERS, THE (BRAZILIAN) FOREIGN MINISTER NOW FINDS A NEW ACTION FRONT TO RECOVER THE PRESTIGE LOST WITH THE ELECTION OF AMBASSADOR ALEJANDRO ORFILA TO THE SECRETARIAT-GENERAL OF THE OAS, AGAINST THE DECLARED OPPOSITION OF BRAZIL. WHATEVER THE OUTCOME OF THE QUESTION OF NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS WITH GERMANY, WITH OR WITHOUT THE OPEN OPPOSITION OF THE UNITED STATE, CHANCELLOR AZEREDO DA SILVEIRA WILL FIND HIMSELF IN A COMFORTABLE POSITION -- AND ONE OF WIDE INTERNAL REPERCUSSIONS -- AS FIRM DEFENDER OF BRAZIL'S RIGHT TO ATTAIN FREELY ITS PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE NUCLEAR FIELD, AND OF BEING THE PRIVILEGED SIGNATORY OF AGREEMENTS THAT WILL MARK THE COUNTRY'S DECISIVE PUSH IN THIS SECTOR. CRIMMINS

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